10. (Amended) A method of reducing noise leakage from a cable modem onto a cable plant, the method comprising:

activating a switch component in the cable modem by sending a control signal from an upstream transmitter to the switch component when the upstream transmitter is ready to transmit a data signal upstream;

transmitting the data signal on the upstream channel; and

deactivating the switch component by sending the control signal from the upstream transmitter to the switch component after the data signal has been transmitted on the upstream channel thereby reducing noise leakage when the cable modem is not actively transmitting and terminating noise from the cable plant when the cable modem is not powered.

Please add claim 18 as follows:

18. (Added) An apparatus for reducing noise leakage from a cable modem onto a cable plant, the apparatus comprising:

means for activating a switch component in the cable modem by sending a control signal from an upstream transmitter to the switch component when the upstream transmitter is ready to transmit a data signal upstream;

means for transmitting the data signal on the upstream channel; and

means for deactivating the switch component by sending the control signal from the upstream transmitter to the switch component after the data signal has been transmitted on the upstream channel thereby reducing noise leakage when the cable modem is not actively transmitting and terminating noise from the cable plant when the cable modem is not powered.

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in the application. Claim 10 has been amended, and claim 18 has been added. The application is believed to be in condition for allowance for at least the following reasons below.

Claim 10 has been amended to merely recite what was implicit, i.e., a control signal, per the Examiner's request. Also, a typographical error in claim 10 of an article ("a") has been corrected.

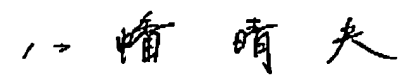
Claim 18 is a means plus function claim corresponding to a method claim, i.e., claim 10.

Therefore, as the Examiner indicated the allowability, claims 1, 10, and 18 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Other claims dependent from claims 1, 10, and 18 should also be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that all pending claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance at an early date. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 510-843-6200.

Respectfully submitted,
BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP



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Limited Recognition under 37 CFR §10.9(b)

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APPENDIX -- VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

Claim 10 has been amended as follows:

10. (Amended) A method of reducing noise leakage from a cable modem onto a cable plant, the method comprising:

activating a switch component in the cable modem by sending a control signal from an upstream transmitter to the switch component when the upstream transmitter is ready to transmit a data signal upstream;

transmitting [a] the data signal on the upstream channel; and

deactivating the switch component by sending the control signal from the upstream transmitter to the switch component after the data signal has been transmitted on the upstream channel thereby reducing noise leakage when the cable modem is not actively transmitting and terminating noise from the cable plant when the cable modem is not powered.

Claim 18 has been amended as follows:

18. (Added) An apparatus for reducing noise leakage from a cable modem onto a cable plant, the apparatus comprising:

means for activating a switch component in the cable modem by sending a control signal from an upstream transmitter to the switch component when the upstream transmitter is ready to transmit a data signal upstream;

means for transmitting the data signal on the upstream channel; and

means for deactivating the switch component by sending the control signal from the upstream transmitter to the switch component after the data signal has been transmitted on the upstream channel thereby reducing noise leakage when the cable modem is not actively transmitting and terminating noise from the cable plant when the cable modem is not powered.